

PATENT APPLICATION

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MARK OFFICE

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[illegible]

Sir:

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.

2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee							\$ 710.00
Total Claims	13	-	20	=	0	x 18	= \$ 0.00
Independent Claims	2	-	3	=	0	x 78	= \$ 0.00
Total Filing Fee							\$ 710.00

CONTINUATION APPLICATION

H-769-02

3. A check including the amount of \$710.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 2-18 before calculating the Filing Fee.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

AI *SB* ~~---This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/290,170, filed April 13, 1999.---~~

7. New drawings are enclosed, thirteen (13) sheets, Figs. 1-16.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663
John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:


MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
104 East Hume Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22301
(703) 684-1120.

9. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 10-104349, filed April 15, 1998.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the Specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/290,170, as originally filed on April 13, 1999.


John R. Mattingly
Registration No. 30,293
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
104 East Hume Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22301
(703) 684-1120
Date: December 21, 2000